

## OFFICE OF THE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

P.O. Box 8179 · Austin, Texas 78713-8179 · 512-471-1422 · FAX 512-471-7742 https://financials.utexas.edu

July 26, 2019

VIA EMAIL
Mr. Liam Knox
74817-61285031@requests.muckrock.com

Re: Estimation of Costs to Fulfill Request; UT Austin ORR No. 150961

Dear Mr. Knox:

This letter relates to your email received by The University of Texas at Austin ("The University") on June 4, 2019, which seeks the following information:

all communications between employees and administrators at the University of Texas' Dell Medical School and Charles Nemeroff, a professor of psychiatry who currently serves as the acting chair of the Department of Psychiatry.

I would also like a copy of the employment contract between Nemeroff and UT Austin.

A couple hours after submitting your request, you sent the following modification:

please limit your search to emails sent or received between June 2018 and June 2019. In addition, you may narrow your search to the following UT Austin employees' communications with Dr. Nemeroff:

President Gregory L. Fenves Dell Medical School Dean Clay Johnston Jorge Almeida Maurie McInnis

I would also like to add to my request, a copy of all emails sent to Johnston or Fenves that include the keywords "Nemeroff," "Charles Nemeroff," "failure to disclose," "Glaxo," and "conflict of interest" from June 2018 to June 2019.

On June 18, 2019, we sent you an estimate of the total costs to fulfill your request. You responded on June 19, 2019, by narrowing your request to instead seek the following information:

emails sent or received between August 2018 and January 2019, both for emails between Nemeroff and the specified UT Austin employees and for emails sent to or from Johnson and Fenves that include the specified keywords.

We sent you another estimate based on that modification on July 3, 2019. You responded to that estimate on July 8 by modifying your request to seek the following information:

A copy of all email communications sent between Dr. Charles Nemeroff and President Gregory L. Fenves A copy of all email communications sent between Dr. Charles Nemeroff and Dell Medical School Dean Clay Johnston

For the above requests, please limit your search to the timeframe of June 2018 and December 2018.

I would also like to request a copy of all emails sent to or from Johnston and Fenves that include the keywords "Nemeroff" along with "failure to disclose" and/or "conflict of interest" from September 2018 to December 2018.

On July 22, we sent you another cost estimate. You responded on July 23, modifying your request as follows:

I'd like to revise my request to exclude all attachments to the emails already requested.

We have determined that fulfilling your revised request will result in the imposition of a charge that exceeds \$40. Therefore, we are providing you with this cost estimate as required by section 552.2615 of the Texas Government Code. The estimated costs associated with your specific request are as follows:

## **Itemized List of Charges:**

| Description                                  | Qty x Price                    | Total              |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Labor minutes (\$15/hr.)<br>Overhead charges | 381 x \$0.25<br>20% of \$95.25 | \$95.25<br>\$19.05 |
| Total cost                                   |                                | \$114.30           |

The estimated charges exceed \$100.00; therefore, as allowed by section 552.263(a) of the Texas Government Code, we require a deposit of 50% (\$57.15) before starting work on your request. The remaining \$57.15 will be due before any information is released.

Upon receipt of payment, The University will have ten business days to seek a ruling from the Office of the Attorney General regarding whether the responsive information is excepted from disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act. If ordered to release the information at issue, The University estimates it will take approximately ten business days to produce all of the requested information.

Please be advised that your request will be considered automatically withdrawn if you do not notify us in writing within ten business days from the date of this letter that you either:

- (a) accept the charges;
- (b) wish to modify your request; or
- (c) have sent to the Open Records Division of the Office of the Attorney General a complaint alleging that you are being overcharged for the information you have requested.

Please notify this office in writing how you wish to proceed within the next 10 business days.

You may deliver your response by any one of the following means:

In person at: The University of Texas at Austin Main Building, Suite 102

By U.S. mail to: The University of Texas at Austin Office of the Vice President and Chief Financial Officer PO Box 8179 Austin, Texas 78713-8179

By facsimile to: (512) 471-7742

Via e-mail to: CFO@austin.utexas.edu

This is a preliminary estimate. If this office later determines that the estimated charges will exceed the charges detailed in the attached, itemized statement by 20% or more, this office will provide you with an updated, itemized statement upon inspection. There is a less expensive way for you to obtain this information. You may view the information in person at our offices. If you choose to view the information in person, please let us know so that we can schedule a time when it will be convenient for you to come.

You may contact me directly at (512) 471-3567 if you have any questions.

Sincerely

**Bob Davis** 

Open Records Coordinator